

RANDY WEBER MEMBER OF CONGRESS FOURTEENTH DISTRICT, TEXAS

March 24, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger Chair House Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chuck Fleischmann Chair Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member House Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur Ranking Member Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger, Ranking Member DeLauro, Chair Fleischmann, and Ranking Member Kaptur:

As you begin crafting the fiscal year 2024 (FY24) Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies appropriations bill, I am respectfully requesting \$167 million in funding for the Sabine-Neches Waterway (SNWW) Channel Improvement Project. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Sabine-Neches Navigation District (SNND), located at 8180 Anchor Drive, Port Arthur, Texas 77642.

The funding would be used to deepen the SNWW to its full federally authorized depth of 48 feet, delivering on Congress' 2014 WRDA authorization.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the SNND has committed approximately 40 percent of this national asset improvement to deepen the SNWW from its current 40-foot depth to its congressionally authorized depth of 48 feet. This equals approximately \$400 million, three times what most *states* put up locally to support their federal ship channel improvement projects; the SNND is preparing to execute on its first \$200 million in dredging. No project can do more for America and its allies right now than dredging the SNWW, America's leading energy and military exporter, and the top exporter of liquefied natural gas (LNG). This Value-Engineering deepening process will save over \$180 million and ensure the nation gets 50 percent of its channel improvement for the entire ship channel faster and more economically.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Section 7002(1)1 of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) of 2014, Public Law 113-121.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

RANDY K. WEBER

United States Representative